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RESOURCE MATERIALS

Updated BCCDC Checklist for [Slaughter Plant plan approval – item 3](#)

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[Value Chains approaches in beef](#)

[BC Food Safety Initiative Implementation Element website](#)

NEWS FLASHES

Alberta announces \$356 M bailout for its livestock sector: news coverage [CBC Western Producer](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS

NEXT ISSUE:

MTAP Phase 2 under way
Mobile projects update

Volume 2, Issue 1: July 1, 2008

Welcome to the new edition of BCFPA's **BC Meating News**, providing information towards increasing livestock harvest and sales of high-quality, safe BC produced and processed meat products. This publication lapsed on the departure of its previous editor, Julie Labelle. It is being resumed as a monthly column for the BCFPA newsletter.

Our meat programs, how to reach us

BCFPA runs two meat-related programs. The Meat Industry Enhancement Strategy (MIES), established in 2005, provides plant operators with assistance to provincial licensing and beyond. Kathleen Gibson, MIES Project Manager, supervises the Help Desk's field staff and Public Health Advisors who work directly with plant operators. The Meat Transition Assistance Program (MTAP) provides capital cost assistance for slaughter facility upgrades or new builds. Gerry Dragomir, MTAP Coordinator, administers the MTAP. Just contact our Vancouver office at 1.877.356.1660 or info@bcfpa.ca.

MTAP Phase 2

Funding for a second phase of MTAP was announced by the Province in April 2008. This phase will be targeted to "under-served" regions. Support materials are in draft and will be posted on the BCFPA Web site at www.bcfpa.ca as soon as all terms of reference and administrative procedures are approved by the MTAP Steering Committee.

MIES Update

The Province also announced in April 2008 a year's continued funding for MIES. The primary focus of this program is provincial licensing with the BC Centre for Disease Control (BC CDC). As of June 2008, BC now has 30 plants fully licensed (Class A or B) in addition to the 11 licensed before 2004, and 24 more with Class C transitional licences (working towards Class A or B status). MIES is assisting the Class Cs and 26 others interested in provincial licensing. In all, a significant increase in activity from the total of 15 plants MIES started with in June 2006!

Since its establishment in 2005, MIES has become involved in an increasing number of issues related to slaughter plants' viability e.g. waste; farm use; zoning. A significant amount of interagency work is involved. The BCFPA wishes to continue such support for BC's meat processors after the licensing effort winds down. Accordingly CEO Nico Human hopes to revive the Meat Industry Committee to advise MIES on key issues and strategies.

Provincial update

The Meat Inspection Regulation under the Food Safety Act is the key piece of legislation regarding slaughter plant licensing and inspection. Changes to the rules for Class C licences were announced June 6 and are posted at www.healthservices.gov.bc.ca/protect/meat_inspection.html. On June 23, programs and personnel on the "meat file" were moved from Health Services under Hon. George Abbott to the new Ministry of Healthy Living under Hon. Mary Polak.

CFIA update

We are pleased to report that Stephen Cosens has returned to the Canadian Food Inspection Agency's Dawson Creek office. Stephen will be coordinating the CFIA team that assists the BC CDC with plant licensing and inspection and works closely with the MIES Help Desk.

Processors' forum

BCFPA is still planning to host a forum for meat processors in early 2008 (Jan or Feb). In the meantime we will host a series of conference calls for discussion of general and specific issues. Please let us know if there is a particular topic you wish to discuss.

For further information

Visit our Web site at www.bcfpa.ca/mies.html

Acknowledgement



Funding for key programs is provided by the Province of British Columbia

KEY LINKS

RESOURCE MATERIALS

Updated BCCDC Checklist for Slaughter Plant plan approval – item 3
<http://www.bccdc.org/content.php?item=144>

Cattle and beef information

Beef InfoNet <http://www.vido.org/beefinfonet/>

CANFAX <http://www.canfax.ca/>

Value Chains approaches in beef

<http://www.canfax.ca/beef%5Fsupply/>

BC Food Safety Initiative Implementation Element website

Announcement - <http://www.agf.gov.bc.ca/foodsafety/fsi.htm>

Implementation - <http://www.ssfpa.net/fsi/fsi.htm>

NEWS FLASHES

Alberta announces \$356 M bailout for its livestock sector: news coverage

CBC - <http://www.cbc.ca/money/story/2008/06/05/livestock-help.html>

Western Producer - <http://www.producer.com/free/editorial/livestock.php>